

PAUL GLAVEY

LITTLETON SELECTMAN

January 3, 2002

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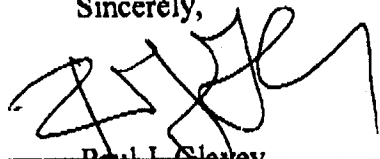
Dear Attorney Hesse,

As a local official serving a community with many high-tech employees, I would like to take this opportunity during the public comment period to offer my thoughts on the proposed Microsoft settlement. The region where I am from is home to many high-tech companies, both established and start-ups, and so I am able to see the ramifications of the two-plus year case against Microsoft as it is manifest in the local economy. The litigation is certainly not the only factor, but it is decidedly a big factor in the evident slow down in the information and related technology sectors.

I support the settlement because I believe the case was misguided, because I think it was bad for the economy, and because I think it is a sensible time to end all this with a compromise. I believe it was wrong to prosecute Microsoft for antitrust violations because everything my own experiences tell me say that the information tech industry is nothing if not volatile, and that the end product of that volatility has been inexpensive and efficient products. I think the case has been bad for the economy because the nature of the industry is that freedom to evolve is essential, and the litigation portends a more restricted marketplace for ideas and technology. And I think it is best to settle now because a settlement has been reached between two opposing forces (Microsoft, and the DOJ) at a time when the economy could use some good news.

All this suggests to me that the calls for a more stringent set of conditions are unwise and fraught with risk. I urge the Department of Justice attorneys to stick to your position and urge the Judge to accept the proposed settlement. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Paul I. Glavey

